

# Essay on Martial Arts in general.

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Martial Arts come from all around the world. They vary in techniques, belt colours and much else. This is a list of some martial arts from around the world.

## List of Martial Arts.

These are striking arts. They may Kick, Punch or use other parts of the body. Here are a few punching arts, Boxing, Shao-Lin long fist and Wing Chun. These are kicking arts, Copoeira, Savate, Taekwondo and Taekkyon. These are arts that use other parts of their bodies, Karate and Muay-Thai.

The next few are grappling arts. These arts throw; pin and joint lock an opponent. A few throwing arts are, Glima, Judo, JuJutsu and Sambo.

A few pinning arts are, Judo and Wrestling. Pinning someone means that you stop them from moving at all. A few joint-locking arts are, Aikido, Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, Hapkido and Malla-Yuddha.

The next few arts that I mention in this list use weapons. These weapons may be traditional or modern. These arts use traditional weapons, Fencing, Gatka, Silambam and Kendo. These arts use modern weapons; Eskrima, Jukendo and Jogo do Pau.

As I said, the list does not cover every martial art, but it does give you an idea of how many arts there are. Arts like wrestling and boxing are not martial arts in some peoples view. I personally think they are not.

## The last century.

During the late 19th century and early 20th century, catch-wrestling contests became very popular in Europe. However martial arts were still mainly unknown in the West even as late as the 1950's.

As Western influence grew in East Asia a large number of army people spent time in China, Japan, and Korea.

Demonstrations of martial arts during Korean War were also more common. Gradually some soldiers saw the value of Eastern martial arts and began training in them.

With big numbers of American servicemen placed in Japan after World War II, the using of techniques and the gradual moving of entire systems of martial arts to the West started.

It was in the 1950's, however, when this moving of systems really began to start flowing. Big groups of American army people were taught Korean martial arts (Taekwondo) during the Korean War.

In the early 1970's, martial arts movies, in particular those of martial artist and actor Bruce Lee, furthered the popularity of martial arts.

## The present.

Judo and Tae Kwon Do as well as western archery, boxing, javelin, wrestling and fencing are currently sports in the Summer Olympic Games. Chinese wushu recently lost their attempt to be included, but is still performed in tournaments across the world.

People who train in some arts such as kickboxing and Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu do so for sport matches but those in other arts such as Aikido and Wing Chun generally avoid such competitions.

Some schools believe that competition makes better and more efficient practitioners, and gives a sense of good sportsmanship. Others believe that the rules under which competition takes place have trashed the combat effectiveness of martial arts or encourage a kind of practice, which focuses on winning trophies rather than the more traditional focus such as building a particular moral character.

Martial arts are a very popular pastime in the present. Hundreds of thousands of people practice martial arts in the modern world and its polarity is growing. I hope that more and more people will start martial arts the future and it continues to grow.

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